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Rural District of Warwick.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1944,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

Leamington Spa:

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1945.

1, Milverton Hill,
Leamington Spa,
August, 1945.

To the Warwick Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Herewith the Report for 1944, and it is of special personal interest to me as it marks the completion of 25 years in your service.

As instructed by the Ministry of Health, the Report is only a short statement of fact. For the first time for several years, statistics can be printed in connection with population, etc.; it is to be hoped that in the future it will be possible to give further details when printing, paper, etc., are more available.

With many thanks for much kindness on the part of the members of the Council and my colleagues.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,
Medical Officer of Health.

Warwick Rural District.

A. Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1944		19,120
Birth Rate		16.3
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births		16
Death Rate		7.3
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	From Sepsis ...	1
	,, other causes	—
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—		
All Infants per 1,000 live births		29
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		23
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		167
Death from Measles (all ages)		—
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)		—
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...		3

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(*a*) *Public Health Officers.*—As before.

Mr. Sholto Douglas continued to act as part-time Water Engineer.

2. (*a*) *Laboratory Facilities.*—Bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	3 ...	22 ...	25
Enteric Fever...	— ...	— ...	—
Tuberculosis ...	— ...	6 ...	6
			31

C. SANIATRY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) *Water.*—The supply at Radford has continued to be satisfactory both as to quality and quantity. The Borough of Leamington is being supplied from this scheme, together with water from the Whitnash supply, at the combined rate of approximately three million gallons per month.

(ii) Samples for bacteriological examinations have been submitted for both raw and treated water, and have proved satisfactory.

No samples for chemical analysis were taken.

(iii) Water from both sources is chlorinated.

(iv) (*a*) 1,523 houses out of a total of 4,577, comprising approximately one-third of the estimated population, are supplied with water direct from the public mains.

(*b*) There are no public standpipe supplies.

(v) Water supplies in areas not covered by the public services were short in places, and in a few instances wells were completely dry. The Council alleviated the position somewhat by arranging for free distribution from a water cart.

A Geologist has been engaged to survey the western portion of the rural district which includes the areas referred to above, with a view to reporting upon the likely water resources of the area. His survey is not yet complete.

Water Supply Extension.—A scheme for the extension of the mains in Radford has been approved and a scheme for the extension of the Whitnash supply to Bishops Tachbrook is before the Ministry of Health.

2. *Drainage and Sewerage.*—There are no changes to report.

3. (i) *Closet Accommodation.*—There is no change to report.

(ii) *Public Cleansing.*—This service has been one of great difficulty even for war-time. The position has, however, improved during 1944, one team of four men having been obtained.

D. HOUSING.

Full particulars of the usual tables have been compiled and are being kept for record purposes.

4. *Overcrowding.*—There is little to add to my last report. Overcrowding has, however, abated somewhat.

5. *Re-Housing.*—Eight houses for agricultural workers have been erected.

6. *Fitness of Houses.*—Inspections of houses have been carried out following complaints. No routine house-to-house inspections were possible owing to shortage of staff.

7. *Temporary Housing.*—Concern increases about the number of temporary hutments which have been erected, many without plan or notice being given. These are inspected, and where possible licensed as temporary buildings.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.—The position regarding the production of milk remains fairly satisfactory. No new cowsheds were erected during the year, and only minor improvements were made to sheds.

The County Council has issued 71 licenses to accredited producers in this district, an increase of 3 compared with last year, and 20 licences to producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk, an increase of 11.

Meat and Other Foods.—Visits have been made in connection with emergency slaughter and cottagers' pigs, and to canteens and shops, a quantity of food has been surrendered as set out in Table 1.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1937.

	Smallpox	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1938 ...	—	14	23	—	17	—	1
1939 ...	—	11	47	—	11	—	—
1940 ...	—	10	17	3	18	—	1
1941 ...	—	37	18	2	52	—	2
1942 ...	—	11	13	—	17	—	—
1943 ...	—	16	19	—	22	—	1
1944 ...	—	8	30	—	9	—	—

Reference to Table III. will give the age distribution of the cases notified diuring 1944.

Diphtheria.—The 8 cases were distributed throughout the District ; 4 were in adults, and 4 in children ; of the latter two had been immunised.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—During the year immunisation of the school children continued, and up to December 31st, 1,535 children between 5 and 15 years had been treated, also 434 under 5 years, a total of 1,989.

Scarlet Fever.—Of the 30 cases 9 occurred at The Gables, L.C.C. residential nursery, and 8 in the Finham area.

School Closures.—None.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
Age—Periods	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	2	1	1	1	—	1	—	—
35	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	3	3	2	3	1	4	—	—

During the year 11 new cases of tuberculosis have been notified, 6 of which were of pulmonary and 5 of other forms of tuberculosis.

Sanatorium.—During the year 6 patients were admitted to the Sanatorium, and 4 were discharged.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND BUILDING SURVEYOR.

A copy of this Report has been received and is being kept for reference.

TABLE I.

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1944.

	Inspections and Observations made	Notices served. Statutory.	Notices served. Informal.	Nuisances Abated after Notice
Dwelling Houses and Schools ...	205	1	68	45
Dairies, Milk Shops and Cow Sheds	94	—	21	17
Bakehouses	4	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses & Butchers' Shops	5	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies	82	—	31	20
Food Preparation Premises ...	74	—	—	—
Ashbins substituted for Ashpits...	7	—	7	7
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	42	—	—	—
Water-closets	—	—	—	—
House Drainage —	16	—	15	10
Water Supply	77	—	31	2
Pigsties	5	—	2	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Factories	14	—	—	—
Shops	21	—	—	—
TOTALS	646	1	175	101

	No.	Lbs.
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food :		
Bacon	3 ...	180
Canned Goods	5 ...	147

Samples of Water taken for Analysis 20

Samples of Water condemned as unfit for use ... 14

Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease 24

E. ARTHUR LYNE, Sanitary Inspector

Table II.

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1944 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births. Nett. Number.	Births. Nett. Rate.	Nett Deaths belonging to the District. Under 1 Year of age. Number.	Under 1 Year of age. Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	At all Ages. Number.	At all Ages. Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1938	15,020	224	14.9	9	40	138	9.2
1939	15,870	201	12.9	8	40	167	10.5
1940	16,340	249	15.2	7	26	167	10.2
1941	18,240	230	12.6	11	46	178	9.8
1942	18,440	297	16.1	5	17	137	7.5
1943	18,600	260	14.0	11	41	156	8.4
1944	19,120	311	16.3	9	29	140	7.3

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1944.

England and Wales.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1944. (*Provisional Figures*).

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

	Live Births	Still Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	17.6	0.50	11.6	46
126 Great Towns, including London	20.3	0.64	13.7	52
148 Smaller Towns	20.9	0.61	12.4	44
London	15.0	0.42	15.7	61

Table III.

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1944.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Plague	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	8	.....	...	4	3	1	.....	.....	7	1
Erysipelas	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever	30	1	10	13	.....	6	.....	.....	19	.....
Typhus Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia	9	.....	1	1	.....	3	3	1	.....	8
Malaria	8	.....	.....	.....	4	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery	17	.....	6	2	3	4	1	1	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Poliomyelitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Polio-Encephalitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2	.....	.....	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	5	.....	1	2	2	.....	...	...	.....	.....
Totals	85	1	18	22	12	22	6	4	26	13

Table IV

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of Death during the Year 1944.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	62	78
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	—
5 Diphtheria	—	1
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	1	3
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	—
8 Syphilitic Diseases	1	—
9 Influenza	—	—
10 Measles	—	—
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ...	—	—
12 Ac. Infant Enceph.	—	—
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	—	—
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod.	1	2
15 Cancer of Breast	—	2
16 Cancer, other Sites	3	10
17 Diabetes	2	1
18 Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions...	8	10
19 Heart Disease	22	21
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	2	—
21 Bronchitis	—	4
22 Pneumonia	4	4
23 Other Resp. Diseases	—	1
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod.	—	1
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)...	2	1
26 Appendicitis	1	1
27 Other Digestive Diseases	3	4
28 Nephritis	2	2
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis	—	1
30 Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31 Premature Birth	1	—
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc....	2	1
33 Suicide	—	1
34 Road Traffic Accidents	—	—
35 Other Violent Causes	—	2
36 All Other Causes	7	5